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Date of Deposit

Steven R. Ellinwood

Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Rep

Signature Di

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

DONALD L. KUEHNE ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/676,897

Filed: September 30, 2003

For: METHOD FOR REMOVING CALCIUM FROM CRUDE OIL

METHOD FOR REMOVING

GROUP ART UNIT: 1764

EXAMINER: TAM M. NGUYEN

P. O. Box 6006 San Ramon, CA 94583-0806

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this Response to the Notice of Allowability mailed on January 26, 2005. Applicants' Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance are set forth on page 2 of this Response.

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Applicants appreciate Examiner's review and allowance of claims 1 through 21 as amended by Applicants in their Response and Amendment submitted herein dated November 4, 2004. Claims 1, as allowed, was amended in part to limit the pH range to between about 3.5 and 4.6. However, in the first paragraph on page 2 of the Reasons for Allowance the Examiner states: "The primary reason (sic) allowance is the inclusion of pH between about 3.5 and 3.6. Table 1 and Figure 1 show unexpected results from this restricted range." Noting the discrepancy between the amended pH range as allowed in claim 1 and the much narrower pH range cited by the Examiner in the Statement Reasons for Allowance, Applicants placed a telephone call to the Examiner on March 10, 2005 to discuss the discrepancy and request that the Examiner file an amended Statement of Reasons for Allowance correcting what appeared to Applicants to be a typographical error. The Examiner reviewed the file during the telephone conference and agreed with Applicants that the pH range of 3.5 to 3.6 referenced in the statement of Reasons for Allowance was incorrect and that the pH range of 3.5 to 4.6 in claim 1 as amended was adequately supported in the specification, in particular, in Figure 1.

Applicants respectfully request that the above Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance be incorporated into the application file wrapper.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven R. Ellinwood Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 48,495 (925) 842-1471

SRE:jll April 26, 2005